

Mount Airy Clay Breakers Garden Club

Breaking News

Autumn 2014



Calendar of Upcoming Events



Nov 11
Franklin Fundraiser

Nov 12-13
Gardening Studies
Course 1/Series IX
Merrifield Garden
Registration required

Nov 22
St Thomas Church
Festival Fundraiser

Dec 11
Garden Club Holiday
Party at Marilyn's

Jan 1
Happy New Year!!

Editors: Lenay O'Quinn
and Deborah Determan.
Winter edition will be
published in Jan 2015.
Please send input to
Lenay and Deborah by
Jan 6th, and include
captions for any photos.

Earth's Treasures

Horticulture — Moonflower Bush



This is the plant a few people took home from the picnic. A moonflower bush is an annual shrub with a greyish appearance and soft hairs on the leaves and stem that is also known as the *Datura innoxia*. The plant produces trumpet shaped flowers that are usually white in appearance, 5" – 6" across. It grows up to a height of 1.5 meters and flowers throughout the summer. It is a moth-pollinated flower, flower opens at night and stays open for 1-1 ½ days. They are deer-resistant.



Article and Photos by Lenay O'Quinn

President's Corner

I am excited about the upcoming year's club meetings and events. We are off and running to a great start. The summer has been an exciting one with a new look for our yearbook, a great garden pool party and two wonderful workshops; all possible by contributions by you to make our club strong and meaningful. Additional participation is planned for presentations and events. Thank you so much for your willingness to serve.

I am very thankful that we have been able to meet many of the challenges we were faced with last year through sickness, separation, injuries, and the loss of loved ones. Thank you for your support and help to one another. While we do not know what the future holds for us in this coming gardening year, I pray for good health and the courage and faith to continue to learn, grow, garden and meet the new changes that life will bring. Let us continue to enjoy the beauty of trees, flowers, grasses, and plants.

St. Thomas Fund-Raiser

November 22nd is the date for our fund-raiser at St. Thomas's Harvest Bounty Festival (note: yearbook incorrectly listed it as 21 & 22 Nov). It takes place in the church hall. Set up begins at 1:00 and is open to the public from 3:00 to 7:00. Vendors include local farmers, gardeners, and crafts people, who have products for sale downstairs. Upstairs there is music and a pot-luck community celebration. If you attend this, it is asked that you bring a dish.

As you may recall, we did very well last year. But, success depends on you. Connie and Linda are responsible for the event this year. But we need floral arrangements to sell, and they come from us. Last year 10 members created 23 arrangements. We rented one table and supplied an extra small card table. Twenty-three to twenty-five is the maximum we can accommodate. Soooo, please let Connie know if you will be participating and how many arrangements you will provide. On the day of the event you can bring your arrangements to the church at 1:00 or drop off at Linda's or Connie's in the morning. If you wish to help out at the sale, let Linda know.

I thank everyone who participated last year and am looking forward to the creative designs this year. Linda

Christmas in Washington

A stop will be made at the American History Museum to view the First Ladies exhibit and enjoy time for shopping. Visit the Botanic Gardens or the poinsettia display with a stop at the National Christmas tree(weather permitting). Last stop is Union Station for shopping and dinner on your own.

Trip fee \$44. 403011-TR Saturday Dec. 13, 2014

Registration Deadline November 13

Departure: La Plata Courthouse 12:30 p.m.,

Waldorf Route 301 Park and Ride 12:45 p.m.

301 934-9305 or 301 870-3388, ext.5159



Photos provided by Pam Smart—plants that have done well in her Marshall, VA garden. Top right clockwise: Caladium, Garlic Chives, Narcissus and Bishops Weed, Pulmonaria (a favorite for shade gardens).



More garden photos from Pam Smart—Top right clockwise: Mountain Laurel (needs caged protection or spray in winter months), Allium, Koussa Dogwood.

Did You Know?? University of Maryland' College of Agriculture & Natural Resources has a Home & Garden Information Center. You can download lots of information on all kinds of garden issues: invasives, diagnostics, diseases, soils, trees & shrubs, weeds, insects, and flowers. And, if you have a question, you can "Ask the Experts" by sending an email (with pictures if needed) or by calling 800-342-2507. A great resource. Check out their website at <http://extension.umd.edu/hgic>.

Hypertufa Class

Lenay O'Quinn hosted a Hypertufa Class on Wednesday, Oct 8th attended by Gilda Allen, Dot Lower, and Deborah Determan. We mixed up two batches for the four molds, using terra cotta stain for a different effect. Dot and Deborah used small square boxes for molds, and Lenay and Gilda used round bowls. It was a great class—Thanks, Lenay!



Dot and Lenay creating the box mold



Box Terra Cota Hypertufa



Lenay making a bowl Hypertufa



Our 1st garden club selfie? Dot, Lenay, Deborah & Gilda

A weed is a plant that has mastered every survival skill except for learning how to grow in rows. Doug Larson